THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) There is no post of Director (Technical) at BHEL, Bhopal Plant.

(b) Does not arise.

Retirement age of public sector executives

3329. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the retirement age of senior officers in public sector undertakings under his Ministry including Directors and Chair man':

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number o*t* senior public sector executives are still continuing in service even after crossing the supreannuation age, if so, the names of sich officers, their age designa tion, name of public undertaking, location salary and perks enjoyed by these execu tives; and

(c) whether in January, 1983, Government ordered for the termination of services of all such executives?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The retirement age in respect of Board-level appointees in public sector undertakings is 58 years. The retirement age of officers of below Board-level is also 58 years but in a few public sector undertakings, which are taken-over companies, the retirement age of executives who joined prior to nationalisation, is 60 years.

(b) and (c) Instructions were issued in February, 1983, to public sector undertakings not to grant extension and give re-employment to superannuated persons. They had' also been advise^ that whenever any extension or re-employment of superannuated persons is inescapable, approval of the Appointments Committee of Cabinet is required in respect of posts where the pay (including pension and pensionary equivalent of retirement benefits) proposed to be allowed to such person exceeds Rs. 2,500/- per month or where the minimum of the pay scale proposed to be given to sncti person is Rs 2,500/- or more

Information regarding the names, age, ' designation, salary and perks of the senior executives in public sector undertakings who are still continuing in service after superannuation as well as the names of the public sector undertakings, their location etc. are not readily available. It will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Bye-elections to legislatures while litigation 's pending in Supreme Court

3330. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of LAw AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether bye-elections to legislature can be held if relevant litigation is pen-ding in the Supreme Court; and

(b) whether it is the duty of the Election Commission to ensure such scrutiny?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Depletion of forests by paper mills

3331. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware ot the vast depletion of forcsts by paper mills:

(b) what arc the schemes being im-plemented to foster alternative sources of raw material for paper mills and

(c) what is the present stage of im plementation of such schemes

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DE VELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHA LAM): (a) There are a number of fac tors depletiem of fores's. This cannot be attributed solely to paper mills although forests are an important source of raw material for the paper in dustry.